



Ardoch News

Ardoch the Village Green

Volume 8, Issue 1

Red Robin—8 Ardoch Ave

The only red brick building at Ardoch, Red Robin was built about the same time as the other California bungalow-type buildings — ie, sometime in the 1920s or possibly the early 1930s.

It initially contained a restaurant in the centre wing of the ground floor, with flats in the flanking wings and on the first floor. The restaurant provided communal dining facilities for the residents of the estate. In 1938, the restaurant and its kitchen were converted to two additional flats to the design of architect Harry Winbush, and the original front porch was replaced with a flat-roofed extension. The east end of the north wing also was altered at this time with



West side of Red Robin, facing the roundabout

the addition of a maid's room on each floor between the flats and the garage block to the east.

Further alterations were carried out in the early 1950s. A caretaker's flat was added, though the location is not entirely clear. It may have been at the east end of the north wing on the ground floor, or possibly in the former staff accommodation

at the rear of the centre wing. A former separate kitchen block, which extended eastwards from the garage block, has

(Continued on page 3)

Inside this issue:

Body Corporate news	2
Noise—your rights	2
Distaff	2
The bard	3
Many happy returns	3
For sale	4
Global garden party	4

STOP PRESS – Ardoch News in colour!!

We know, we know — it's hard to make out the photos in plain black and white. If you'd like your Ardoch News in colour, send an email request to the editor at:

mdoig@alphalink.com.au

and we'll send your newsletters in pdf format, in beautiful technicolour! Go on, do it now!

Send that email now!

Don't put it off, do it now!

And while you're at it, please include your name, phone number and address so we know who you are!!

We're also working on an Ardoch website, where residents will be able to access past editions and other relevant documents.

From your Body Corporate Committee

Mercifully, the Big Storm in January did relatively little damage to our beautiful trees at Ardoch, unlike other places like the Botanic Gardens and Fawkner Park where many large old trees were completely blown over and destroyed. Our Big Tree dropped a number of medium sized branches but nothing of significance and nothing too close for comfort. However, the Chinese Elm just to the north of the rubbish corral outside Bluebird (8 Pilley St) may have suffered irreparable harm — the wind blew it almost horizontal and even though it's been pulled upright again, its roots may not be able to recover. The same goes for the roots of the cypress

outside apartments 2 and 7 in Wardell House. The wind pulled it out from the ground and the roots may not be able to re-establish themselves. We are getting professional advice and will save both if at all possible.

Following some professional advice regarding health and safety, the Committee has decided to replace the free weights in Exercise Room. The overall amount of the weights will be limited to 100lbs and a proper storage tree supplied. If anyone uses these weights, could they PLEASE consider others and make sure they are safely stored away on the tree after use.

Finally, owners of new apartments with enclosed balconies should be aware their balcony walls may become insecure. The walls of the balconies are not solid as they appear but made of timber frame and cladding. Over time, the underlying wood can rot and degrade, particularly where there is a lack of waterproofing membrane, potentially making the balcony unsafe; regular inspections should be conducted. Repair is the responsibility of owners, since balconies are on title. Further details can be obtained from the body corporate manager Michael Nugent—see last page for contact details.

Noise ... your rights

Noise is one of the most common sources of friction between neighbours in residential environments. It's important to remember that perceptions of noise are relative; and many people can be noisy *from time to time*. If noise from your neighbours is bothering you, the first step is to speak to them about it — they may not have realised the effect on you and maybe quite happy to tone it down.

The Environment Protection Act 1970 makes it an offence for a person to emit unreasonable noise from residential premises (section 48A(3) EPA). When someone is making unreasonable noise, you can call either the Council (during normal working hours) or the police (outside normal working hours). They can give the person a warning and direct them to reduce or stop the noise.

EPA Regulations ban the use of noisy equipment as follows:



Power tools	Before 7am and after 8pm Mon to Fri
	Before 9am and after 8pm weekends
Stereos, musical instruments, radio, TV	Before 7am and after 10pm Mon to Thurs
	Before 7am and after 11pm Fridays
Domestic air conditioners, vacuum cleaners	Before 7am and after 10pm Mon to Fri
	Before 9am and after 10pm weekends and public holidays

Distaff

Whoever thought up the word "mammogram"? Every time I hear it I think I'm supposed to put my breast in an envelope and send it to someone. (Jan King)

A male gynaecologist is like a mechanic who never owned a car. (Carrie Snow)

Laugh and the world laughs with you. Cry and you cry with your girlfriends. (Laurie Kuslansky)

A man's gotta do what a man's gotta do. A woman must do what he can't. (Rhonda Hansome)

The phrase "working mother" is redundant. (Jane Sellman)

I'm not offended by all the dumb blonde jokes because I know I'm not dumb — and I'm also not blonde. (Dolly Parton)

If high heels were so wonderful, men would still be wearing them. (Sue Grafton)



When women are depressed they either eat or go shopping. Men invade another country. (Elaine Boosler)

Behind every successful man there's a surprised woman. (Maryon Pearson)

In politics, if you want anything said, ask a man. If you want anything done, ask a woman. (Margaret Thatcher)

I am a marvellous housekeeper. Every time I leave a man I keep his house. (Zsa Zsa Gabor)

Nobody can make you feel inferior without your permission. (Eleanor Roosevelt)

A litterative allusions from the bard of the Green

In the leafy suburb of St. Kilda, a suburb of Melbourne between Alma Rd (so called after the late 19th century Crimean War) and Dandenong Rd, lies Alma Park -- a superb serene sward laudably landscaped and interestingly intersected by pleasant paths, shrubs, flourishing flamboyant flowerbeds and tall thick trees -- some of which have provided welcome shade and shelter for scores of years.

If you vacate your vehicle in Alma Rd almost opposite Raglan St you'll find it -- after a two minute stroll North -- just past the rotunda. It looks just like the other normal cantilevered seats, but this seat is supremely special, set in concrete with inscribed words "Listening Seat" -- in English, Russian, Chinese, Hebrew, Hungarian, Vietnamese, Yiddish -- to name a few -- reflecting subtle savoury tiny tastings of the marvellous melange of the delightful diversity of Melbourne's multiculturalism.



You'll hear sundry snippets of casual conversation recording the frank feelings of folk who've known and loved and appreciated this park with it's ever-changing aspects and seasons over the years.

Listen to an excited toddler calling out to the turning train speeding through a carved cutting below, then the sound gently fading away... And then the toddler's Polish-born mother with a perfect English-Australian accent, who vividly remembers arriving here in 1934 -- speaking no English, then in no time at all mastering the language with not a trace of European accent. Hear her talking of her visits to the butchers in nearby Chapel Street. Then listen to a group of loudly-laughing chattering Chinese who regularly used Alma Park for Tai-Chi. This is followed by a homosexually-inclined gentleman telling of park encounters -- some of

(Continued on page 4)

Many happy returns

Seems some people just can't make up their minds!

Shirley and Tom Huberts were part of the originals, moving into the grandeur of Apartment 1 in Wardell House in 1995 just after Ardoch was redeveloped. But Tom couldn't settle, and after a few years they sold up and bought another grand old place in West Melbourne, this time to renovate. Circumstances changed. Tom moved on and Shirley jumped at the chance to return to her friends at Ardoch. Fortuitously, after a year or so renting, Apartment 1 came back on the market. And so, after a break of five years, she moved back into the place she'd so reluctantly left -- this time as sole, and permanent, owner.

George and Glenys Bell are also returning to Ardoch. They've finally sold their Geelong home and will be returning in mid March. George and Glenys recently snapped up one of the larger apartments in Lark House and will be moving in there once the current lease has expired. In the meantime, they'll be staying at their old 'townhouse' in Wardell.

Red Robin (cont.)

(Continued from page 1)

been demolished, probably in 1954 when the remaining section was converted into additional garages.

The brickwork was originally tuckpointed and this remains intact in the porches and other sheltered areas. A boiler room, originally serving the restaurant kitchen, is located on the south side of the centre wing and retains the original boiler enclosure and chimney. The garages were altered to include pump rooms and an electricity substation. The original timber

stairs were replaced with galvanized steel stairs.

The interiors of the flats were of two types: the original 1920s interiors to the north and south wings of the ground and first floors, and the 1938 interiors of the centre flats and the rear extension of the north wing.

The two centre flats on the ground floor, converted from the original restaurant in 1938, are distinguished by their Moderne decorative treatment. The walls have textured plaster finish. Ceilings have stepped rectangular section covings with fluted or Art Deco decorations. Both these flats

retain original bathrooms with green and black tiling.

The first floor flat at the rear of the centre wing comprised three rooms plus a bathroom accessed though an overhanging weatherboarded bridge. The flat appears to have been originally restaurant staff accommodation or possibly a caretaker's flat.

(Note: this information is drawn from the Ardoch Village Conservation Management Plan prepared for the Urban Land Authority by Adam Lovell and Associates, November 1994)

Ardoch the Village Green

Body Corporate Committee

Boyd Adamson—5/8 Ardoch Ave, 9510-0250

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(Continued from page 3)

which have developed into 50-year relationships...

These sounds, which emanate from a tape deeply buried beneath the seat, are utterly unknown by many of the joggers, older folk soaking up the warmer weaker winter sun, family groups around the BBQ's, cheery children swinging, climbing, hanging... The unleashed dogs having a ball in their dutifully-designated areas... They're all absolutely unaware of the Listening Seat's existence and would all (except the dogs) derive much pleasure giving their ears such a unique treat -- also their eyes taking in the most unusual grove of olive trees, the huge golden poplar, the mighty gums, the massive Moreton Bay Fig -- all providently providing the district with such splendidly charming community facilities.

It's truly a fascinating concept -- all made possible by a Commonwealth Grant given to Municipal Councils as a celebration of Federation a few years ago.

I strongly suggest you soon sample both the variety of variegated visual delights and the unique aural offerings of Alma Park, where we can always appreciate the magnificent mix and introduced flora as we do the gradual melding together of those folk fortunately born here and those more recently arrived.

I don't think it inappropriate to mention here a 1643 quotation of Sir Thomas Browne (1605-1682): "No man can justly censure or condemn another because indeed no man truly knows another."



Harry Greenberg's rather proud of muso granddaughter Wendy Greenberg, at present living, studying and teaching percussion in Oslo. Wendy, a casual percussionist with the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra, is at present rehearsing with the Norwegian Symphony and was recently interviewed by the ABC 774's Red Symons in his "expat" slot.

Global Garden Party

13 March 2005, noon - 5 pm, St Kilda Botanical Gardens.

The Global Garden Party is the City of Port Phillip's most celebrated environmental lifestyle festival. It is a non-profit event that brings together individuals, communities and organisations.

This year on the main stage one of Melbourne's most exciting rising stars of world music the awesome **Big Fela** band a tribute to Africa's Fela Kuti and the afro beat sound will be joined by **King Marong and Safara** from Gambia/Africa with a show guaranteed to make you move. Also playing the high-energy ska, funk and reggae sounds of the **Dili All Stars**, legendary Cuban Son outfit **Los Carbrones**, and indigenous singer songwriter **Peter Rotumah**. On the decks **DJ Systa BB** (PBS) will deliver her finest selection of global fusion, afro beat, dub & world electronic while **DJ Uptight** will warm you up with the heaviest bass, roots, dub, reggae and dancehall. For further information about the council's environmental projects contact ASSIST on telephone (03) 9209 6777 or visit the City of Port Phillip website at www.portphillip.vic.gov.au

For Sale Bike—Apollo Crossroad 21 speed pushbike. Ridden twice since new. Blue and silver. Cost \$450, sell \$100. Ring Meredith on 9530 2954 or mdoig@alphalink.com.au

The happy couple

